

## Editorial



### Exploiting advances in technology...

Those of you who read these editorials on a regular basis will know that the *exploitation* of new gold science and technology is a constant theme. For World Gold Council, this is important and is one of the reasons for our commitment to *Gold Bulletin*. We seek to grow the industrial demand for gold, as explained in our Gold 2003 keynote lecture, published in the last issue. This is our ultimate objective.

In particular, we in the editorial office strongly believe that the commercial exploitation of gold catalysis is about to burst forth. We keep seeing important new patents and hearing whispers on the grapevine about commercial activity. At the recent 13th ICC catalyst conference in Paris, we hosted a very successful trade stand under the banner '*Exploiting advances in technology*'. Excitingly, 5 partner companies/ R & D centres exhibited their prototype products based on gold catalyst technology (see conference report in this issue), thus demonstrating that exploitation is really being actively pursued. We are also being increasingly approached to assist in identifying possible manufacturers of gold catalysts to supply companies moving towards commercial exploitation of their technology. This highlights a problem: exploiting technology does require availability of gold catalysts on a commercial scale but catalyst producers can be reluctant to develop large scale production until they see firm commitments and orders. A 'chicken and egg' situation that could hinder commercialisation! Hopefully, we are persuading key catalyst manufacturers of the real opportunities that are imminent. Exciting times are ahead!

### Another combined issue...

As with the last issue, we have decided to combine parts 3 and 4 in a combined issue. This is for several reasons including cost at a time of increasing pressure on our limited budgets and the need to prepare a new, separate *Gold Bulletin* website in time for electronic publication – see next item.

### *Gold Bulletin* goes electronic...

Since its creation over 37 years ago, *Gold Bulletin* has been unswerving in its unique commitment to the promotion of the latest gold science, technology and its applications. Its outstanding reputation as a top class scientific journal is a testament to this focus and commitment. This edition of *Gold Bulletin* is the last one to appear in hard copy. As you will read elsewhere, *Gold Bulletin* is moving to electronic publication in 2005 and becomes an E-journal. We have been considering this for some time and feel the time is now ripe for such a major progressive move. This involves a separate website identity for *Gold Bulletin*, [www.goldbulletin.org](http://www.goldbulletin.org), where you will shortly find the archive of earlier issues. We are simply '*exploiting advances in technology*' to provide a better service to you, our readers!

Please remember to register online, if you wish to continue to receive *Gold Bulletin* in electronic form. Details are on the inside front cover.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chris Corti". The signature is followed by a long, horizontal, slightly wavy line that extends to the right.

Christopher W. Corti  
Editor